

**BT/CT/RAD Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 15 2012, 10:00 AM**

Attendees: Julie Nassif, Scott Hennigan, Tanya Swanson, Jennifer Jenner, Nora McElroy, Kim Doan, Tom Coulombe, Caryn Conley, Rebecca Hastings, Jack Kruger, and Sydney Fuller-Jones

Facilitator: Julie Nassif

Recorder: Sydney Fuller-Jones

Next Scheduled Meeting: March 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am – 11:00am, Room 133

### **Molecular BT Lab – (Facilities Update As Reported By Scott Hennigan)**

- The first phase of the SLI HVAC improvement project is wrapping up with 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor East, 404 Suite, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor East and West and 8<sup>th</sup> Floor East receiving new VAV boxes. The BSL3 laboratories have been upgraded with a Honeywell computerized monitoring system, allowing alarms to be acknowledged 24hrs a day. There are adjustments to be made to the TB Suite in regards to the different flow rates required to balance the environment.
- Some of the Labs were conducting testing for the New Hampshire State Laboratory due to their Lab being down due to their building freezing. It was noted that our building also had a freeze up in the lower basement with the Animal Quarters, Rabies Lab, and Radiation being effected. All Laboratories are currently functioning properly.
- There will be a building wide electrical shutdown to test the new generator system. The date is to be set by John Nickerson, it is thought to be sometime in March.
- Congratulations to Kim Doan, who has been promoted to BioWatch Supervisor.

### **Training**

- **Biosafety and Biosecurity: Minimizing the Risks in the Laboratory** class which was attended by both HSLI staff and Sentinel Laboratorians from as far away as North Adams. This was very successful and there is much interest in our next class (October 24, 2012).
- The next workshop series is: **Agents of Bioterrorism: Sentinel Laboratory Training**. Four sessions are planned; the first is March 14 (this class has two seats left open). **Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Hazardous Goods** classes are scheduled at HSLI for April and July; Deb Carter is also working to arrange a session at Cooley-Dickinson Hospital in May (at their request).

### **Radiation Lab**

- The state of NH Radiation Program contacted us directly after their building experienced a significant heating problem. MERL was on stand-by for about two weeks to run any analyses for them if needed. Under the New England Radiological Health Compact, established back in the 1970's, it only takes a few phone calls to activate our joint cooperation. We know these people and we have been to their facilities. We would always be willing to help them, if asked. However, no samples required immediate analysis and they are up and running again in Concord.
- The state of NH Rad Lab asked to borrow two reference sources to recalibrate some delicate equipment after they got all their systems electrified and counting again. On 2/1/12, Tom rendezvoused with a NH colleague in Hampton Beach, NH and loaned them two exempt quantity check sources. Tom expects to hear from them in the next week to retrieve these items.

- The JP Rad Lab will be participating in a Federally graded nuclear Power Plant exercise (Seabrook) in April. The drill (the practice dry run) will be in mid-March. In fact, 13/13, the day of the next BT-CT-Rad meeting, may be the practice date, therefore Tom's group may not be at the meeting on that day.

## **APHL**

- Jack Kruger was present, as he was here to work on integrating the Lab with IT. He stated that his main focus is to explore our success rate here at the State Lab.